E. JOHN. Fare you well, Falstaff: I, in my condition.
Shall better speak of you than you deserve [8].

[Exit.

must either read, *pray* let me *stand*, or, by a construction somewhat harsh, understand it thus: "Give me leave to go—and—stand—." To "stand in a report," referred to the reporter, is to persist; and Falstaff did not ask the prince to persist in his present opinion. JOHNSON.

"Stand my good lord," I believe, means only "*stand my good friend*" (an expression still in common use,) in your favourable report of me. So, in The Taming of the Shrew:

"I pray you, *stand* good father to me now."

Again, in King Lear:

«««-------conjuring the moon
"To *stand his auspicious mistress*"

Mr. M. Mason observes that the same phrase occurs in Ben Jonson's Case is altered, where Onion says to Chamont:

"Monsieur Chamont, *stand you* my honoured Sir."
STEEVENS.

Mr. Steevens is certainly right. In a former scene of this play, the Hostess says to the Chief Justice, *"*good my lord,* be good unto me; I beseech you, *stand* to me." Though an equivoque may have been there intended, yet one of the senses conveyed by this expression in that place is the same as here.

Again, more appositely, in Coriolanus:

*"— his gracious nature
*Would think upon you for your voices,—
*Standing your friendly lord."

Again, in The Spanish Tragedy:

<«----, What would he with us?
"He writes us here
"To *stand good lord*, and help him in distress.*'
MALONE.

Stand is here the imperative word, *Sisgive* is before. "Stand my good lord," i. e. be my good patron and benefactor. *c Be my good lord" was the old court phrase used by a person who asked a favour of a man of high rank. So, in a Letter to the Earl of Northumberland, (printed in the Appendix to The Northumber-< land Houshold Book,) he desires that Cardinal Wolsey would so far "be his good lord," as to empower him to imprison a person who had defrauded him. PERCY.

[8] —I, in my CONDITION,
Shall better speak of you than you deserve,] I know not well the meaning of the word *condition* in this place; I believe it is